

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TRIPOL 01315 141222Z

53

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 CCO-00 USSS-00 SS-20 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 ACDA-19 IO-15

INRE-00 DRC-01 /140 W

----- 100489

O 141106Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0635

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 1315

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - DATE PARAGRAPH 4. IS 12 VICE 11

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR LY

SUBJ: LARG PROTEST AND WARNING TO USG

REF: TRIPOLI 1314

1. THE DEMARCHE DELIVERED BY U/S NA'AS TO ME (REFTEL) MAY BE VIEWED IN SEVERAL CONTEXTS. ONE IS THAT QADHAFI HAS TAKEN AN AMBIVALENT POSITION ON THIS WAR AND MAY FEEL SOME INTER-ARAB AND INTERNAL PRESSURE TO GET WITH IT. ANOTHER IS THE MFA HAS ALREADY MADE DEMARCHES ABOUT THE WAR TO WIDE SPECTRUM OF OTHER COUNTRIES, EXCEPTING THE U.S. TILL NOW. THESE DEMARCHES INCLUDED WARNINGS TO U.K., BELGIUM AND NETHERLANDS ABOUT ALLEGED RECRUITMENT OF VOLUNTEERS FOR IDF. THUS DEMARACHE TO ME WAS PART OF A PATTERN, AND WE CAN EXPECT AT LEAST THE USUAL PUBLICITY ABOUT IT TOO. IF THAT IS ALL IT MEANS, IT IS NORTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

2. IN AN EFFORT TO DELVE BEHIND THE DEMARCHE I ASKED NA'AS IF IT WAS ON INSTRUCTION OF THE RCC OR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TRIPOL 01315 141222Z

THE MINISTER. HE REPLIED "IT IS FROM THE LIBYAN ARAB

REPUBLIC GOVERNMENT." THIS SHEDS NO LIGHT, BUT WE SUSPECT REASONS FOR DEMARCHE AT THIS TIME INCLUDED A) INFO LARG RECENTLY RECEIVED FROM SYRIANS AND EGYPTIANS RE THEIR SPECIFIC COMPLAINTS OF AMERICAN INTERVENTION, AND B) FACT THAT IN LAST THREE DAYS U.S. HAS ACTUALLY RECEIVED SOME FAVORABLE PUBLICITY IN LIBYA, RE CONTRACT SIGNED WITH WESTINGHOUSE TO TUNE OF OVER \$50 MILLION, AND RE USG ACCEPTANCE OF ARABIC IN PASSPORTS (SEPTTEL). LATTER WAS LEAD ITEM ON LOCAL NEWSCASTS OCT 13.

3. QUESTION STILL REMAINS WHETHER THE "WARNING" SHOULD BE TAKEN AS A CONSIDERED THREAT SIGNALING EARLY REPRISAL UP TO AND EVEN POSSIBLY INCLUDING A BREAK IN RELATIONS. WE DO NOT THINK SO. AMONG OTHER THINGS, WHEN LARG IS DEAD SERIOUS ABOUT US IT DOES NOT TELEGRAPH ITS PUNCHES. ON OTHER HAND, REPRISAL CAN NOT BE RULED OUT, PARTICULARLY IF THESE HYDRA-HEADED STORIES ABOUT U.S. MILITARY INVOLVEMENT KEEP MUSHROOMING. QADHAFI AND BUREAUCRATS LIKE NA'AS ARE GULLIBLE FOR THEM IN THE EXTREME.

4. AM TODAY SENDING NA'AS A BRIEF LETTER SIMPLY ENCLOSING MCCLOSKEY'S PREPARED STATEMENT DENIED U.S. MILITARY INVOLVEMENT (STATE 203641) AND A COPY OF THE SECRETARY'S REMARKS TO THE PRESS ON THE M.E. OF OCT 12. THIS WOULD NOT CONSTITUTE THE "REPLY" I OFFERED AND HE SAID WAS UNNECESSARY, BUT MIGHT HELP KEEP THE RECORD STRAIGHT FOR THE TIME BEING--IN THE SENSE THT AT LEAST MFA WOULD HAVE THIS MATERIAL, NOT THAT THEY ARE LIKELY TO CALL OFF THEIR PUBLICITY TO NA'AS DEMARCHE. MORNING NEWSPAPER PLAYS IT BOTTOM FIRST PAGE.

5. DEFER TO DEPARTMENT'S JUDGMENT WHETHER ANY FORMAL REPLY SHOULD BE SENT, E.G. BY A NOTE DRAFTED WASHINGTON. WE ARE INCLINED TO FAVOR SUCH A STEP FOR PAROCHIAL REASONS, AS IT WOULD KEEP A DIALOGUE GOING THROUGH A PERIOD OF TENSION WHEN WE ARE, FRANKLY, QUITE IN THE DARK ABOUT THE LARG'S INTENTIONS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TRIPOL 01315 141222Z

JOSIF

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PFOR LY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TRIPOL01315
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TRIPOLI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731033/aaaaayha.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 TRIPOLI 1314
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <17-Jan-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LARG PROTEST AND WARNING TO USG
TAGS: n/a
To: SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005